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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT NO. SO-17048

25X1A

File 938

INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY	USSR/China/Siam/Malaya	DATE DISTR.	17 September 1948
SUBJECT	Political Information: The Organization and Activities of "Mezhkniga" 25X1A	NO. OF PAGES	5
PLACE ACQUIRED	[redacted]	NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)	
DATE OF I 25X1X	[redacted]	SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.	

[redacted]

1. Soviet printed propaganda and other Soviet published materials are being distributed in the Far East, particularly in China, from the Shanghai office of Torgpredstvo. (This is in addition to the propaganda efforts of TASS, Soviet newspapers and other Soviet or Soviet supported publications in the Far East.) In charge of this activity is Timofei Yakovlevich Cheburakov, Soviet Mezhkniga (Mezhdunarodnaya kniga-International Book) representative for the Far East, whose office is in Torgpredstvo's Shanghai office. This distribution of Soviet printed propaganda and other Soviet published materials is technically illegal in that Cheburakov in his registration with the Chinese authorities as a Torgpredstvo employee and by his physical location in the offices of Torgpredstvo in Shanghai, is an employee of Torgpredstvo, the official functions of which are those of trade and export and not the distribution of Soviet publications.

2. Cheburakov, in his correspondence with various Occidental and Oriental officials or firms connected with his work, merely signs his name, without stating his position beneath his signature (except in letters to Moscow). This correspondence is written on stationery, the heading of which is either "Trade Representation of the USSR in China" or "USSR All-Union Association 'Eksportkhleb' in China". Cheburakov's correspondence to Moscow is signed first by a Torgpredstvo official (director or deputy-director) and then signed below this official's name by "T. Cheburakov, Senior Supply Man."

3. The correspondence from Cheburakov to Mezhkniga representatives in the various cities of China is written on stationery, the heading of which reads in Russian "Suyuz Sovetskikh Sotsialisticheskikh Respublik Torgovoye Predstabitelstvo SSR v Kitaye" (USSR Trade Representation in China). Correspondence from Cheburakov to Orientals or supposedly Oriental enterprises connected with his Mezhkniga work is written on stationery the heading of which reads first in Russian "Vsesoyuznoye Obedinenie 'Exportkhleb' v Kitaye" (All-Union Association "Exportkhleb" in China) and beneath this are the Chinese characters 蘇聯全國粮食出口協會 (Su Lien Ch'uan Kuo Liang Shih Ch'u K'ou Hsieh Hui-Soviet National Food Export Association). However, this correspondence from Cheburakov concerns Soviet printed propaganda and other Soviet publications and does not deal with trade or export. Letters from Cheburakov to Moscow, although addressed to "Comrade N. V. Ogureyev, All-Union Association 'Mezhdunarodnaya kniga'", are written on paper which has the heading "Trade Representation of the USSR in China, Shanghai Branch."

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4. The following is a list of addresses (including persons and firms) to which correspondence is sent from the Torgpredstvo office, Shanghai. This list includes primarily those persons or firms to which correspondence, Soviet propaganda, and other Soviet published materials are sent by Cheburakov:

USSR
Moscow:
All-Union Association "Mezhdunarodnaya kniga"
Comrade N. V. Ogureyev, Moscow

MALAYA
Singapore:
Kheng Shiew Pao (?Ching Shih Pao- 鏡 世 報), 41 Seah Street, Singapore
"The New Democracy Culture Service", 149 Middle Road, Singapore

SIAM
Bangkok:
Miss Nit Pongdabphet, "Chance Wish Store", Number 323 Navet Road, Trek Sandpah, Lane Bangrak, Bangkok, Siam
"Silom Sign Studio" (also reported as "Silon Sink Studio" and "Selon Sign Studio"), Artists and Magazine Dealers, 979-981 Wind Mill Road, Bangkok, Siam

CHINA
Shanghai:
Torgpredstvo (All-Union Trade Representation of the USSR in China), 1288 Bubbling Well Road, Shanghai. (Officially, the head office of Torgpredstvo in China is in Nanking)

Nanking
Central University, Nanking
"Gene News", 38 Tien Chao San Chen, Canton Road, Nanking
Niu Chung-ch'un (牛 仲 春), Number 8 F, Kung Chiao, Third Terrace, Kuangchou Road, Nanking
The Secretariat of the Planning Commission, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Nanking, China.

Peiping
National Library of Peiping, Peiping, 7 China
Li Wei-p'o (李 維 渤), Yenching University, Peiping

Tientsin
Comrade Suvorchenko (Suvorchenkov), Tientsin Branch of Torgpredstvo
Citizen A. Ya. Serebrennikov, 13 Chu Fu Road (Ex-Consul Road), Tientsin 10, China

Mukden
Manager of Mukden Branch of Torgpredstvo of the USSR in China, Comrade L. Almazov (Tschurin)
I. Ya. Churin and Company, 175 Chung Shan Road, Mukden

Hankow
Mr. Koomish, 6 Rue Dubail, Hankow; also addressed: M. Kumysh, USSR Consulate General in Hankow

Kweilin
Hsing Hua Book Store (興 華), 61 Chung Nan Lu, Kweilin, Kwangsi Province

Tsingtao
J. A. Glebov (Gleboff), Post Office Box 257, Tsingtao, China

Canton
Hua Mei Book Company (華美圖書公司), 68 Nan Min Pei Lu (漢 民 北 路 六十八号)

Hongkong
N. Ivanchenko, USSR All-Union Association Exportkhleb, Number 3 Humphrays Avenue, Kowloon, Hongkong

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5. Cheburakov in Shanghai is apparently responsible for the distribution of Soviet printed propaganda and other Soviet publications in China (including Mukden and Hongkong but not including Sinkiang Province), in Siam and in Malaya. Evidence of this area responsibility is noted in paragraph 4 above and in the list of Mezhkniga representatives throughout the world as listed below. Siam and Malaya are not included, nor are Hongkong and Mukden; but Harbin and Dairen, cities in the Chinese-Communist-controlled areas of Manchuria, are given. Although Fleet's Book Store is listed below as the Mezhkniga representative in China, the present (July 1948) official representative of Mezhkniga in China is Roman's Library and Book Store, 307 Nanchang Road, Shanghai. Fleet's Book Store and the bookstore of A. Ya. Serebrennikov, Tientsin, are both representatives of Mezhkniga in China and distribute materials sent from Cheburakov. These two bookstores have not had the privilege of placing orders for Mezhkniga material directly to Moscow since the end of World War II, as only Roman's Library and Book Store has this privilege. It is likely that the list below was printed sometime prior to August 1945. [redacted] Comment. Although Roman's Library and Book Store probably is able to place an order directly to Moscow, or at least to Moscow through Cheburakov, the material sent to Shanghai for Roman's Library and Book Store apparently comes to Cheburakov in Torgpredstvo and is then delivered to Roman's Library and Book Store. (Copies of Pravda purchased in Roman's Library and Book Store have had the original wrapping left on them; this wrapping has the main office of Pravda as the sender and the addressee is given as "Trade Representation of the USSR in China, 1288 Nanking Road, Shanghai".)

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The following documentary list is a copy of a translation of a printed list of Mezhkniga representatives in various countries throughout the world. This list is entitled "Representatives of Mezhkniga" and at the bottom of the list are the words "Printed in Moscow":

Country	Mezhkniga Representative, Address
USSR	Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga, Kuznetski Most 18, Moscow
Albania	Ndermarja Shtetnore, e Botimeve dhe Shperndarjes, Tirana
Argentina	Editorial Lautaro, Alsina 1941, Buenos Aires
Australia	Current Book Distributors, 695 George Street, Sydney
Belgium	Les Amities Belg-Sovietiques, 1-a Boulevard du Regent, Brussels
Bulgaria	Partizdat, ul. Angel Knchev, 5, Sofia; Bolgaro-Sovetskoe Obschestvo, bul. Carj Osvododitelj, 10-a, Sofia; Knizharnica "Ruska Kniga", bul. Carj Osvoboditelj, 14, Sofia
Canada	Progress Publishing Company, 95 King Street, Toronto People's Cooperative Bookstore Association, 337 West Pender Street, Vancouver
China	Fleet's Book Store, 247 Cardinal Mercier, Shanghai
Cuba	Editorial Paginas, Apartado 2213, La Habana
United States	Four Continent Book Cooperation, 253 Fifth Avenue, New York Universal Distributors, 38 Union Square, New York 3, New York
Czechoslovakia	Knihkupectvi "Svoboda", Vaclavske nam. 14, Praha 2 Svoboda, Na Florenci 13, Praha 2 Melantrich A/S, Vaclavske nam. 36, Praha 2 Novinaretvi "Praha" Hybernska ul. 30 Praha 2
Denmark	Hovdbanegaardens Aviskiosk, Hovedbanegaarden, Kopenhagen
Germany	Das Internationale Buch, Unter den Linden 67, Berlin
England	Collet's Subscription Department, 40 Great Russel Street, London W. C. 1.
France	Nouvelles Messageries de la Presse Parisienne, 111 Rue Reaumur Paris 2 Association France URSS, 29 Rue d'Anjou, Paris 8 Maison du Livre Etranger, Rue de l'Eperson 9, Paris 6 Centre de Diffusion du Livre et de la Presse, 140-142 Boulevard Diderot, Paris 12
India	People's Publishing House, 190-B Khetawadi Main Road, Bombay Branches: Calcutta, Madras, Nagpur, Lahore, Poona, Calicut, Cochin National Book Agency, 12 Bankim Chatterjee Street, Calcutta

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Iran	Bookstore "Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga", Saadi Street 486, Teheran Bookstore "Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga", Khiaban Pehlevi Khestarudi House, Tauris
Italy	Foreign Press Development, via Campo Marzio 24, Rome Ulrico Hoepli Largo Chigi, Rome
Hungary (Magyarorszag)	Horizont, Vilma Kiralyne ut 45, Budapest
Manchuria	Churin, Kitaiskaya 148, Harbin Churin and Company, U-i-sze Street Number 1, Dalny (Dairen)*
Mexico	Impulsora Cultural Palma Norte, Despacho 505, Mexico City
Mongolia (MPR)	Knigosorgovy otdel pri Klube im. V. I. Lenina, Ulan-Bator
Netherlands	Pegasus Boekhandel, Leidschestraat 25, Amsterdam C.
Norway	Johan Grundt Tanum, Karl Johans gt. 43, Oslo A/S Narvesen Kioskkompani, Post Box 125, Oslo
Austria	Das International Buch, Trattnerhof 1, Vienna 1
Palestine	Pales Press Company, Limited, Post Office Box 844, Tel-Aviv Branches: Pales Press Company, Post Office Box 476, Haifa Pales Press Company, Post Office Box 619, Jerusalem Joseph Tarazan, Post Office Box 439, Beirut (Lebanon) "Hepac", Post Office Box 1794, Haifa
Poland	Towarzystwo przyjazni Polsko-Radzieskiej, Krolewska 2, Warsaw Wydawnictwo Kooperacijne "Czytelnik", Warsaw
Rumania	"Cartea Rusa", Calea Victoriei 42, Bucuresti (Bucharest) "Libraria Noastra", Calea Victoriei 45, Bucharest "Roumania Libera", Str. Sarinadar 5, Bucharest
Finland (Suomi)	Akateeminen Kirjakauppa, Postilokero 128, Helsinki Suomatiskirjakauppa, Koydenpunojankatu 2, Helsinki Kansankulttuuri Oy, Siltasaarenkatu I. A. 17, Helsinki
Switzerland	Genossenschaft Literaturvertrieb, Feldstrasse 46, Zurich
Sweden	C. E. Fritze's Kgl. Hofbuchhandlung, Fredsgatan 2, Stockholm
Turkey	Lazar D. Beresiner, Istiklal Caddesi 67, Beyoglu Istanbul
Uruguay	Eficiones Pueblos Unidos, Lida, 589, Casilla Correo, Montevideo
Yugoslavia	Magazin "Jugoslovenska Knjiga" ul. Marsala Tita 23, Belgrade
Egypt	Bookstore "Culture" 44, Safaih Zaghoul Street, Alexandria Bookshop "Circle" Kemmal Pasha Circle Cairo

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[redacted] Comment. This item was as follows in the original report: Churin and Company, U-i-sze Street Number 1, Dalny (Port Arthur)

6. Timofei Yakovlevich Cheburakov has been a Mezhkniga official for sixteen years. He is the only Mezhkniga official in the Far East and is responsible for the activities of Mezhkniga in the Far East. There is no indication that Cheburakov saw military service in World War II although he is an ex-Russian Cossack. He is well-read and his specialty is political propaganda. Cheburakov speaks several languages and associates very little with the other employees of Torgpredstvo. Like most of the other Moscow-dispatched Soviet personnel in the Shanghai Torgpredstvo office, Cheburakov takes his turn doing "night duty", a system comparable to the U. S. Army practice of having an Officer of the Day and Charge of Quarters. Cheburakov and his wife live on the premises of Torgpredstvo, Shanghai. Cheburakov has a large office in the rear of the Torgpredstvo building in which thousands of different books in several languages are kept. Cheburakov is completely in charge of these stocks of books including their physical safekeeping. His only assistant is a Chinese, a Mr. Young (full name unknown). The distribution of books is decided by Cheburakov; however Mr. Young or Professor P'AN from one of the Shanghai universities recommends that certain individuals and schools be give free literature. Almost every university and public library in Shanghai receive material from Mezhkniga as no payments or receipts are known to be issued.

7. The books and other printed material which are sent to the Shanghai Torgpredstvo office for Cheburakov from the USSR by Soviet ship, about a half ton per ship, arrives as "Diplomatic Mail". When a new stock of material is due to arrive from the USSR, Mr. Young telephones various persons, firms and organizations informing them of the imminent arrival of the various printed materials. The cost of shipment of the Mezhkniga materials from the USSR to Shanghai is apparantly handled by the Moscow office, as Cheburakov is not responsible for the expense of shipment from the USSR. If any profit is made, and this

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is rare, these profits are used for defraying mailing costs from Shanghai to the various cities. The postal rates from Shanghai to other cities in the Far East to which Mezhkniga material is sent are sometimes higher than the cost of the publications themselves. Miss Anna Assonova, Torgpredstvo bookkeeper, keeps the account books for Mezhkniga. These books and the various accounts in them are not discussed in the Torgpredstvo office. Although accounts are kept, Cheburakov is primarily interested in having a record of how many books have been distributed and to whom. In his office, Cheburakov personally keeps a chart on which he marks vertical lines with variously colored crayons, these lines indicating the amount of distribution of Mezhkniga material effected by a given representative in a given city. The prices of Mezhkniga publications which are sent from Shanghai to other cities are the same and are extremely low; the prices to Chinese visitors are even lower and there are many Chinese who receive the materials free of charge. For example, during June 1948, Professor P'AN bought 18 books, each of about 180 to 200 pages, and the cost of all 18 was only CNC $120,000 (less than US $.50). If these publications distributed by Mezhkniga were sold only as waste paper for pulp, the books would bring at least three times the amount for which they are sold as reading materials. The addressing of most of the packages of printed material sent out of Shanghai is done by Mr. Young.

8. Translation of books or literature is usually accomplished by the TASS News Agency, which is under the direction of V. N. Rogov. Rogov, who is an expert on the Far East, gives suggestions to Cheburakov regarding Chinese books to be sent to the USSR for printing. TASS has recently printed some books in Shanghai. The Shanghai Torgpredstvo office has its own printing press, including various kinds of types, among which is Chinese. The printing expert is from Moscow.

9. Visitors are privately received by Cheburakov alone each day. These visitors are trusted Chinese school teachers and professors. Quite often Mr. Young makes personal delivery of materials. Groups of Chinese students visit Cheburakov and take many books away with them. Actually Cheburakov spends most of his time meeting Chinese in Torgpredstvo and supplying them with various publications.

10. Cheburakov and Mr. Young get along well together. Young speaks, reads and writes excellent Russian. On many occasions he makes his own decisions. Young is one of the highest-salaried Chinese employees of the Torgpredstvo office. He is in charge of all the hawkers who sell books on the street, most of whom receive the books free of charge. A subject for discussion among local Torgpredstvo employees is the fact that some of these hawkers even receive salaries from Torgpredstvo.

11. The only bookstore in Shanghai to receive Mezhkniga material on a commission basis is Roman's Library and Book Store. Other bookstores pay for the publications at a very low cost. Mr. S. L. Fineland of the Marden Development Company, representative of Sovtorgflot in the Far East, takes care of transporting Mezhkniga material to the interior of China. The Commercial Express and Storage Company of Shanghai, which is also run by Mr. Roman of Roman's Library and Book Store, transports books to the interior of China for Mezhkniga.

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